## **CLAIMS**

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## I CLAIM AS MY INVENTION:

- 1. A ceramic composition comprising:
- 5 a plurality of oxide shapes;
  - a filler powder comprising zirconia-hafnia; and
  - a binder material partially filling gaps between the oxide shapes and the filler powder.
- 10 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the portion of hafnia in the zirconia-hafnia is in the range of 50-95 mol%.
  - 3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the portion of hafnia in the zirconia-hafnia is in the range of 60-75 mol%.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the portion of hafnia in the zirconia-hafnia is at least 20 mol% and less than 100 mol%.

- 5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the filler powder comprises composite particles each comprising zirconia-hafnia and alumina.
- 6. The composition of claim 5, wherein the portion of alumina in the composite particles is in the range of 20-50 mol%.
- 7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the filler powder comprises particles having an average size of at least 30 microns.
  - 8. The composition of claim 1, further comprising:

the oxide shapes comprising hollow mullite spheres;

the filler powder comprising composite particles comprising zirconia-hafnia and alumina; and

the binder material comprising alumina.

- 9. The composition of claim 1 disposed on an oxide-oxide ceramic matrix composite substrate material.
- 10. The composition of claim 9, wherein the portion of hafnia in the zirconia-hafnia is selected to limit a phase transformation of the zirconia-hafnia from a monoclinic phase to a tetragonal phase to occur throughout no more than 20% of a thickness of the material remote from the substrate material at a predetermined use temperature.

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- 11. An article comprising:
- a ceramic substrate; and
- an overlayer comprising zirconia-hafnia disposed on the ceramic substrate.
- 15 12. The article of claim 11, wherein the ceramic substrate comprises one of the group of alumina, mullite, yttrium aluminum garnet and zirconia.
  - 13. The article of claim 11, wherein the ceramic substrate comprises a non-oxide; and
- an oxygen barrier layer interposed between the ceramic substrate and the overlayer.
  - 14. The article of claim 11, wherein the portion of hafnia in the zirconia-hafnia is in the range of 50-95 mol%.

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- 15 The article of claim 11, wherein the portion of hafnia in the zirconia-hafnia is in the range of 60-75 mol%.
- The article of claim 11, wherein the portion of hafnia in the zirconia-hafnia is at least 20 mol% and less than 100 mol%.

- 17 The article of claim 11, wherein the overlayer comprises zirconia-hafnia and alumina.
- The article of claim 11, wherein the portion of alumina in the overlayer is in the range of 20-50 mol%.
  - 19. An article comprising: a ceramic matrix composite substrate; an insulating layer comprising mullite disposed on the substrate; and an overlayer comprising zirconia-hafnia disposed on the insulating layer.

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20. The article of claim 19, wherein the overlayer comprises zirconia-hafnia and alumina.